

The Northfield Press

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THREE CENTS

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Charles C. Stearns

Charles Calvin Stearns, one of the town's foremost citizens, passed in death at the Springfield Hospital on Saturday, May 4, where he had gone to undergo an operation. His familiar face, his kindly acts and his fine character will be missed but long remembered by his many friends. He was born in the house on Main Street in which he lived November 1, 1862, the son of Charles H. and Sophia Field Spafford Stearns. He was educated in the local schools of his day and began work early in life in the grocery and finally the clothing business, retiring in 1941 after a career of fifty years. At one time he was associated with the late Herbert C. Parsons in a local enterprise. He married Lucy V. Alexander February 23, 1898, who died August 16, 1941, and both were active in the social and civic life of the community. They were active members of the parish of the Unitarian church.

Mr. Stearns was an ardent Republican and had served as a selectman, an assessor, town clerk and recently as a member of the finance committee. He was chairman of the Puritan Outpost publication; the history of the town written by Mr. Parsons, which now is presented to high school seniors. He was a member of Harmony Lodge of Masons and its secretary for 39 years. He was a member of Crescent Royal Arch Chapter and a charter member of Orange Commandery as well as being a charter member and trustee of the local Order of Eastern Star. Mr. Stearns had received the Joseph Warren medal for distinguished services to the Masonic fraternity. He was interested in the Historical Society as a member and aided in its work of securing exhibits. He had also served his church as clerk of the parish and of its trustees. During the life of the local bank and the printing company, he was a director in each.

He is survived by a number of cousins, nieces and nephews. The funeral services were held at the Unitarian church Tuesday afternoon with the Rev. Hazel R. Gredler, the minister, officiating and burial was in the family plot in Center Cemetery with committal service by the Orange Commandery.

Thanks For Clothing

Mrs. David B. Hammond, of Aldrich Street, who so efficiently served as chairman of the victory clothing collection in this town has received a letter of appreciation for her effort from the executive director and a brief statement of the progress of the distribution, which is among all peoples deserving aid in the various countries of Europe, the Far East and the Philippines. Former director general, Governor Lehman, says that the work of the clothing collection was well done and its distribution has relieved a desperate situation in the devastated countries.

Valley Unitarians

Evidence of new life and energy was shown in the spring meeting of the Connecticut Valley Conference of Unitarian Churches which was held with the local Unitarian church on Sunday, May 5. There was particular emphasis upon the interest and activity of young people as the conference renewed its obligation to the betterment of human life in town, state and nation. Sessions were held afternoon and evening and supper was served at the town hall by a committee of local church women. The Rev. Hazel R. Gredler, minister, welcomed the delegates. Group gatherings were held in the afternoon and in the evening the sermon was delivered by the Rev. Clyde D. Williams, pastor of the Unitarian church of Greenfield. Ralph F. Holbrook, of Warwick, is president of the conference; George A. Warner, of Hartford, vice-president; Rev. Eugene Luening, of Northampton, secretary, and Miss Harriet E. Childs, of Old Deerfield, treasurer.

Farm Women Elect

The Women's Benevolent Society of Northfield Farms recently held their annual meeting with a dinner gathering with Mrs. William Craig, president, in the chair. After the transaction of business and the reading of the year's glowing report, the election of officers was held for the coming year. Mrs. Dorothy Clough was chosen president; Mrs. Marion Billings, vice-president; Mrs. Viola Billings, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Celia Telford, Mrs. Ida Browning and Mrs. Roxie Davenport are the new directors. Mrs. Florence Hubbard, retiring secretary, was presented flowers in appreciation of her work. Spring flowers and May baskets were decorations at the social gathering.

CARD OF THANKS

The relatives of the late Charles C. Stearns wish to thank all his friends for cards and flowers sent him at the hospital and for the beautiful floral tributes and other expressions of sympathy at the time of his death.

PARAMOUNT

BRATTLEBORO

Sun.-Tues.—May 12-14

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

Joan Fontaine Mark Stevens

Wed.-Thurs.—May 15-16

APOLOGY FOR MURDER

Ann Savage Hugh Beaumont

Also JUNIOR PROM

Fri.-Sat.—May 17-18

TALK ABOUT A LADY

Jinx Falkenburg Joe Besser

Also CRASHING THRU

LATCHIS MEMORIAL BRATTLEBORO AUDITORIUM

2:15

6:30

8:30

Fri.-Sat.—May 10-11

IN OLD SACRAMENTO

William Elliott Constance Moore

Sun.-Wed.—May 12-15

POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS

TWICE

John Garfield

Lana Turner

Thurs.-Sat.—May 16-18

WHISTLE STOP

George Raft

Ava Gardner

Victor McLaglen

Fri.-Sat.—May 10-11

GUN TOWN Kirby Grant

Also ISLAND CAPTIVES

Sun.-Mon.—May 12-13

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

Robert Alda

Joan Leslie

Tues.—May 14

ALGIERS

Wed.-Thurs.—May 15-16

MADONNA'S SECRET

Francis Lederer

Gail Patrick

Fri.-Sat.—May 17-18

BORN FOR TROUBLE

Sacred Concert Sunday

Several residents of Northfield and vicinity will be on the air Sunday afternoon as members of the chorus of 1,000 which will broadcast a portion of the annual concert of sacred music of the Northfield Schools over Station WJZ of New York, and the American network. The broadcast will originate in the Auditorium and will be on the air from 4:30 to 5 P. M., eastern daylight saving time.

The program is being featured by the broadcasting company as a Mothers' Day tribute to the mothers of America, particularly those of the thousand students of Northfield School for Girls and Mount Hermon School, who will sing in the concert. This annual event was started more than 50 years ago and originally featured the sacred music of Ira Sankey, George Stebbins and others in the so-called Northfield group of hymn writers. This year's program will combine the choral music of such composers as Mozart and Handel with familiar hymns.

Those from this area participating are Eva-Marie Amann, Jane Backus, Cynthia Baldwin, Esther Bentley, Anna Beran, Ellen Friesmaster, Portia Chamberlin, Bette and Elaine Franz, Emily Kirk, Sally Kirk, Anne Livingston, Evelyn Morgan, Mary Mosse, Nina Pearsall, Barbara and Betty Taylor, Joan Williams, Robert Barnes, Paul Chamberlin, Cleland Cochran, Edwin Finch, Carl Frankenberg, John Greenwood, Clifford Holton, Ernest Leavitt, Lynn Partidge, David and John Powell,

Parish Annual Meeting

Members of the parish of the local Unitarian Church gathered in annual session Monday evening, April 29, following a supper served in the vestry in charge of a committee, Mrs. Bessie George, Mrs. George N. Kidder, Mrs. Thomas Parker, Mrs. Harold Bigelow, Mrs. Chester Parker and Mrs. Carroll H. Miller. Reports of the work of the church and its several organizations were received and the Rev. Hazel R. Gredler, the minister, gave a review of her seven months of service. Carroll H. Miller acted as moderator and the following church officers were chosen: Joseph Morgan, treasurer; Mrs. Fred Irish, collector; Mrs. Oler Doolittle, auditor; Carroll Miller, Charles F. Slate, James Spaulding, Mrs. Thomas Parker, Mrs. Joseph Morgan, Mrs. Harold Bigelow and Mrs. Dean Williams, parish committee. Services during August will be suspended.

Edwin Brailey, of the Vernon Home, is quite ill and has been taken to the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital for care and treatment.

Our local public health nurse, Miss Natalie Gowen, reports that she has made 103 visits during the month of April.

Richard Reeves, Paul Rikert, Kenneth Ruhl, Irwin Severance, Neill Sutherland, Goddard Winterbottom, Elizabeth Birdsall, Margaret Dodd, Alice Taber, Donald Ayer, Buell Bassette, Patton Lockwood, Henry Martineau, Donald and John Skib.

Legion Auxiliary Now

An auxiliary post of women to the local American Legion organization has been organized in Northfield. After a recent meeting in town hall, addressed by Mrs. Vera Richards, of New Salem, representing the state authority, it was voted to organize and the following officials were elected: Mrs. Harold Breismaster, president; Mrs. Frederic Chapin, senior vice-president; Mrs. Ruth Cembalsty, junior vice-president; Mrs. Herbert White, secretary; Mrs. Robert Hubbell, treasurer; Mrs. Stanley Payson, chaplain; Miss Ellen Breismaster, historian; Miss Carolyn Miller, sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. Carroll H. Miller, Mrs. Cleland Cochran and Mrs. Clarence Spaulding, executive board. Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month.

150th Anniversary

Harmony Lodge of Masons of this town will observe the 150th anniversary of the organization on Wednesday, June 26. Appropriate exercises will take place at the Masonic Hall and a dinner will be served at the Northfield Hotel at 7 o'clock. The Grand Master of the state is expected to be in attendance as well as other officials of the Grand Lodge. Harmony Lodge was organized in 1796. Horace W. Bolton is the present Worshipful Master.

Amherst reports a tax rate for this year of \$32, which is \$2 more than last year.

Reddy's "preview" of brand new household appliances and other electrical gadgets.

Photographs of well-known historic or scenic spots in western Massachusetts.



Interesting facts in Almanac style about the history and high points of the month in question and a handy two-month calendar.

Questions and answers about electrical living.

A "Recipe of the month", tested and approved by the Home Service Department of the Western Massachusetts Electric Company, and a "Home-makers Corner" of helpful household hints.

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Recipes, household hints, answers to your questions about electricity, information on new electric appliances — all these come to you in Reddy Kilowatt's Almanac with your electric bill every month. You will be surprised to find how much valuable and entertaining material is contained in its eight pages.

LISTEN TO "THE ELECTRIC HOUR"



WITH NELSON EDDY, SUNDAYS 4:30

LEGAL NOTICE

We are asking the cooperation of the citizens of Northfield in assisting us to eliminate unnecessary communicable disease and thus to protect the health of the community. There would be fewer cases of communicable disease among school children if parents would keep children at home when they have symptoms which might be just a cold or might be something more serious. Also we need everyone's help to secure more adequate reporting of communicable disease.

Following is a quotation from the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 111, Section 109. The Law requires that each and every householder report all reportable diseases to the Board of Health if there is no Doctor in attendance. All persons who neglect this duty will be fined not more than \$100. Also the law requires that no child will re-enter school after a communicable disease without a slip from the Doctor saying that the child is free from infection.

ERNEST A. PARKER,
Chairman, Board of Health.

Become Engaged

Announcement has recently been made of the engagement of Miss Jane dePeyster Peck, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. Charles Russell Peck, of Concord, to Norman Washburn Towner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Towner, of South Vernon and Oakland, Cal. Miss Peck graduated from Concord Academy, attended Mills College in Oakland and graduated from Radcliff College cum laude in 1945. Last winter she taught at Brearly School in New York. Towner attended Trinity School in New York and Deerfield Academy as well as the University of Nevada. He was recently discharged from service with the army where he served in specialized service in Germany. Towner is well known here among many friends and frequently visits his parents home still maintained at South Vernon. No date has been set for the wedding.

Dr. F. W. Dean was the guest speaker Wednesday evening, the 8th, before the Vernon Grange when he spoke of his travels in Mexico and the south and showed colored slides of photos taken by him.

Town Topics

The junior class of the high school held a well attended "prom" in the Town Hall Friday evening of last week with music by the Bergerons. All enjoyed the evening dance.

At the annual meeting of the Missionary Society of the Congregational church held Wednesday, May 1, the following officers were chosen: Mrs. Henry Cutler, president; Miss Mercy Brann, vice-president; Miss Louise Roe, secretary, and Mrs. Frank Evans, treasurer. Mrs. Russell Durgin was the guest speaker at the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Miller announce the engagement of their daughter, Ethel Louise Miller, to Paul H. Carpenter, of this town.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rice, of Renrietta, N. Y., were guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Miller who, it is reported, have purchased the Rice property.

The Rev. Helen Bassett, of the Free Methodist Church, with Janet James, were in Seekonk Sunday, May 5, attending the district conference. Dr. George Bronson conducted the services of the local church.

Eben Janes has returned to his home here from the Franklin County Hospital and is gradually improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wing, Jr., are at the home of his parents in West Northfield. Recently discharged from the navy in California, he now contemplates building a home on the lot adjoining that of his parents' home.

There has been shown very little interest in home gardens about Northfield this season compared with the interest during the war years. The Extension Service reminds us that we must not lag for gardens will be a very important consideration in keeping our tables supplied.

A new Ford graces our streets, lettered "Public Health Nurse, Northfield," for use of the district nurse in carrying on her professional duties. Its cost was provided for in an appropriation at the last annual town meeting.

The old large house on the Breinig estate just north of Wanamaker pond has been razed by the new owner of the property, Daniel Gravel.

Town Topics

Members of the local chapter of the Eastern Star attended a Mothers' Day program at the meeting of the Brattleboro Eastern Star chapter on Tuesday evening, May 7. Mrs. Willis Parker arranged the transportation.

Miss Sarah Ayer, of Danielson, Conn., has arrived at her cottage in the Highlands and is preparing the same for occupancy this season.

Mrs. Annie E. True, of Clinton, Conn., who has been visiting with friends, has arrived here to be again with her son, Dr. Ansel B. True and wife, in their home at the Moody residence on Highland avenue.

Mrs. Louise Barnes LaBella is visiting her sister in Scranton, Pa., after a winter spent in St. Petersburg, Fla. She expects to return to Northfield about June 1.

Mothers' Day is Sunday, May 12. Appropriate references will be made in the services at all churches. Let all honor and remember mother.

The Reverend and Mrs. Loring B. Chase have arrived at their summer cottage in the Highlands after spending the winter in Florida.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Ruth June Phelps, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett W. Phelps, of Greenfield, to David B. Stevens, son of Mrs. David B. Stevens, of Mount Hermon. It is expected that the wedding will take place in June and the young couple will live in their newly acquired home in East Northfield.

Mrs. Virginia Maskiell gave a public recital by her dance pupils in the town hall Wednesday, April 30. There were 35 pupils selected from her classes in Winchester, Northfield and Greenfield. Dancing followed the recital to the music of Herby's Orchestra.

The Rev. Francis C. Schlater has been called to become minister of the Unitarian church at Bernardston. He comes from Ambler, Pa., and has already begun his work.

George Marshall, son of Major and Mrs. William Marshall, of Highland Ave., who was recently discharged from the service has gone to the Bartlett School at Stamford, Conn., to study tree surgery.

Mrs. J. Lee Bolton has returned from a visit with her son, Ernest Bolton and family, at Silver Springs, Maryland.

Town Topics

Dr. William E. Park was guest speaker recently at the annual Northfield New York vesper service held in Riverside church in New York. He also was the speaker in the Unitarian church in Germantown, Pa., recently.

C. K. Ober, of White Plains, N. Y., called the grand old man of the "Y," quietly observed his 91st birthday at his home on Sunday, May 5. He is also a resident of this town with a summer home called "Ober's Lookout," well known and often frequented by our citizens. The newspaper of his city carries a splendid article concerning him and later the Press will publish.

Thomas Batchelor who is a guest at the Vernon Home in South Vernon recently observed his 90th birthday and received many calls and greetings.

Wild Flower Talk

Osborne A. Brown of the Massachusetts Electric Company gave a most interesting talk and display in natural color by slides of wild flowers at the meeting of the Garden Club held at Alexander Hall Monday evening, the 6th. There was a goodly attendance and all were much interested in the educational talk. Questions and a general discussion followed the meeting. It is expected that the June meeting will be out of doors and announcement will be made to all members.

Trustees Had Meeting

The spring meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Northfield Schools was held here last Saturday with Mr. John L. Grandin, chairman, presiding. A report on the year's activities was presented by Dr. William E. Park and a budget was adopted for the fiscal year beginning July 1 which showed an increase of 4½ per cent over this year. Other weekend events included a meeting of the directors of the Northfield Hotel and a dinner for the trustees on Friday evening. The chapel speakers at the schools were the Rt. Rev. W. Appleton Lawrence, bishop, of Western Massachusetts, who spoke in Mt. Hermon Memorial Chapel, and Dr. Kenneth I. Brown, president of Denison University, who addressed the student body in Sage Chapel on Sunday morning.

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